

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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UNCLAS STATE 005708

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON TRADE REFORM ACT

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM STATE DEPARTMENT NOON BRIEFING
JANUARY 9:

Q: TWO DAYS AGO YOU SAID THAT IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO, THE
SECRETARY WOULD SEND HIS MEN TO CAPITOL HILL TO DO SOME-
THING -- YOU WEREN'T DEFINITIVE ABOUT IT -- ABOUT THE WAY
THE OPEC NATIONS WERE TREATED, STIMULATED BY THE ECUADOR
LETTER. HAS THAT CAMPAIGN BEGUN YET? CAN YOU TELL US
ANYTHING ABOUT IT?

A: WELL, CONGRESS ISN'T IN SESSION YET.

Q: I KNOW, BUT YOU SAID IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO.

A: YES. IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, THE SECRETARY WILL BE
DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS.

Q: HE HASN'T YET?

A: NO, HE HAS NOT.

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Q: AND, BY THE WAY, IT WILL BE HE WHO WILL BE DOING THE CAMPAIGNING?

A: I DON'T WISH TO AGREE WITH YOUR VERB OF "CAMPAIGNING", BUT HE WILL BE DISCUSSING --

Q: IS "LOBBYING" ALL RIGHT?

A: -- THIS SUBJECT, AND I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT WILL JUST BE THE SECRETARY. IT MAY BE SOME OTHER OFFICIALS, ALSO.

Q: BUT HE PLANS PERSONAL INTERVENTION WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS.

A: HE DOES.

Q: TO DO WHAT? WE HAVE NEVER BEEN CLEAR ABOUT THAT.

A: I CAN'T TAKE YOU ANY FURTHER THAN I DID TO SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT THE --

Q: EASING THE RESTRICTIONS.

A: THAT'S RIGHT.

Q: I HAVE TWO QUESTIONS IN REFERENCE TO CONGRESS AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT. (A), WHEN THE SECRETARY, OR WHOEVER GOES UP TO THE HILL TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE ARISEN OVER THE OPEC COUNTRIES ON FOREIGN AID, OR THE TRADE BILL, IS HE GOING TO OPEN UP ANY DISCUSSION ON ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE BILL, OR IS IT LIMITED TO THE OPEC PROVISIONS?

A: I CAN'T BE TOO SPECIFIC HERE, BUT I WOULD FRANKLY ASSUME THAT THIS WOULD BE A DISCUSSION OF A NUMBER OF THE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES IN THE TRADE BILL THAT WOULD BE DISCUSSED. BUT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GET MORE INFORMATION FROM THE WHITE HOUSE THAN FROM ME HERE, BECAUSE THIS IS SOMETHING THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAVE DISCUSSED. SO IT WOULDN'T NECESSARILY BE UNCLASSIFIED

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LIMITED TO JUST THE OPEC QUESTION. KISSINGER

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